

REMARKS / DISCUSSION OF ISSUES

Claims 2-6, 8, 9, and 11-26 are pending in the application. Claims 1, 7, and 10 are canceled without prejudice or disclaimer of their subject matter.

Claims are amended for non-statutory reasons: to correct one or more informalities, remove figure label number(s), put them in independent form where base claims were canceled, remove multiple dependencies, and/or to replace European-style claim phraseology with American-style claim language. The claims are not narrowed in scope and no new matter is added. New dependent claim 11 reciting a means-plus-function feature, and claims depending therefrom, are added.

This is a preliminary amendment for the application being filed herewith. Examination of the application is now respectfully requested. If any points remain in issue that may best be resolved through a personal or telephonic interview, the Examiner is respectfully requested to contact the undersigned at the telephone number listed below.

Respectfully submitted,



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